

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Movement of Soviet and KVP Troops to Training Areas. 25X1A	DATE DISTR.	24 April 1953
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BY CABLE

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SOURCE:

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1. The entrainment of troops at the Naumburg railroad station started on 13 April and continued until 19 April. The shipments included 15 x 122 mm howitzers from Hubertus Kaserne, 27 motorcycles and 14 x 160 mm mortars from the Hindenburg Kaserne and an engineer unit equipped with amphibious cars and pontoons from an unidentified installation. The Bismarck Kaserne, where 60 trucks were ready for departure, was only partially occupied on 20 April. The Hindenburg and Barbara casernes were almost vacant while the Hubertus and Luetlich casernes were occupied only by guard details. The Oberlandesgericht was still occupied. A general was also still there.¹
2. On 13 April, seven heavy tanks of the 9th Mechanized Division were loaded at the Weisswasser railroad station. It was rumored that the training grounds are to be vacated by Soviet troops and occupied by the Volkspolizei. VP infantry and tank units had already arrived there.²
3. A tent camp quartering about 12,000 soldiers equipped primarily with tanks and AT guns was observed in the Lieberose training grounds, in the area east of Schoenhoehe, on 17 April. Most of the motor vehicles numbers belonged to the 9th Mechanized Division.²

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4. Two trains carrying tanks of the 6th Guards Mechanized Division were unloaded at the Forst Zinna railroad station on 18 April. The units then proceeded to the training grounds.
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5. On 17 April, 25 T-34/85 tanks and an undetermined number of motor vehicles departed from the Zuckerbusch Kaserne in Magdeburg.³
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6. On 19 April, a train carrying 13 x 160 mm mortars and motor vehicles of the 65th Mortar Brigade left Rathenow North railroad station and proceeded toward the Main station. Other trucks were ready for departure at the Infanterie Kaserne. Another military shipment had been dispatched on the night of 18 April. About 100 boxcars with equipment and ammunition were seen at the North station and three empty cars at the Main station.⁴

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Comments:

1. The first trains of the 57th Guards Rifle Division from Naumburg arrived at the Kindel training grounds on 18 April.
2. Information acquired in late March indicated that Camp Nochten would be transferred to the KVP. A previous report indicated that large elements of the 9th Mechanized Division had departed from Cottbus in the direction of Weisswasser and Muskau by rail and road between 15 and 17 April. It is possible that the division will be split at the beginning of its summer training and that the units at Weisswasser will later rejoin the other elements of the division in the Schoenhoehe area.
3. Probably tanks and vehicles of the 19th Guards Mechanized Division bound for Letzling Heath.
4. It is believed that elements of the 6th Artillery Division started moving to Altengrabow on 19 April.

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